## Sister City Agreement

Whereas, the Sister City Program, administered by Sister Cities International (copyright symbol), was initiated by the President of the United States of America in 1956 to encourage greater friendship and understanding between the United States and other nations through direct personal contact; and

Whereas, in order to fulfill these objectives, the people of Rockville, Maryland, United States of America and Jiaxing, Zhejiang Province, Peoples Republic of China, in evidence of their friendship and goodwill, agree to collaborate for the mutual benefit of their communities in exploring cultural, educational, governmental, and economic facets of life in their respective communities.

Whereas, we agree to encourage and support opportunities for mutually beneficial exchanges in the fields of the performing and visual arts, history and culture, sports, education, health, business, science and technology, and governmental services, and

Whereas, we encourage such exchanges to involve ordinary citizens of our communities to communicate directly in the exchange of ideas and to become familiar with our respective histories, lifestyles and cultures, through the hosting of delegations and individuals, arranging excursions to important local sites, companies, schools, service facilities and elements of local infrastructure

Now Therefore, Rockville, Maryland, United States of America and Jiaxing, Zhejiang Province, People's Republic of China do hereby proclaim themselves to be Sister Cities, and declare their intent to abide by these guidelines indefinitely according to Sister Cities International (copyright symbol) policies.

This document becomes effective on the date of signing,

and is written in both English and Standard Mandarin.

Both texts have equal power.

| Rockville Official | Jiaxing Official |
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